

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDE-00
AF-08 ARA-06 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NASA-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01
OES-06 SS-15 USIA-06 /121 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6333
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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION UN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
ERDA HQ WASHDC
ERDA GERMANTOWN
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2461

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM CCD
SUBJ: CCD: SECOND INFORMAL MEETING OF CCD WITH EXPERTS ON CW,
MARCH 29, 1977

1. SUMMARY: SECOND CW EXPERTS MEETING WAS HELD MARCH 29. UK,
SWEDISH, YUGOSLAV, US AND FRG EXPERTS DELIVERED PREPARED STATE-
MENTS. END SUMMARY.

2. SECOND INFORMAL MEETING OF CCD WITH CW EXPERTS OPENED WITH
REJECTION BY UK OF INDIAN REP'S IMPLICATION (GENEVA 2380) THAT UK
POSSESSES CW STOCKPILES. UK REP ALSO RESPONDED TO INDIAN CRITICISM
THAT UK DRAFT CONVENTION IMPOSED CONTROLS BEFORE DISARMAMENT BY
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POINTING OUT THAT INDIAN REP IN MDW EXPERTS MEETING HAD, IN EFFECT,
BEEN ADVOCATING CONTROLS ON WEAPONS NOT YET IN EXISTENCE. UK EXPERT
(HOLMES) DELIVERED PREPARED STATEMENT ON SCOPE OF UK DRAFT ARGUING
THAT SINCE PURPOSE OF CONVENTION WAS TO ELIMINATE CHEMICAL WARFARE
INTENDED TO KILL OR INJURE HUMAN BEINGS THEY HAD NOT THOUGHT IT
APPROPRIATE TO INCLUDE PROHIBITION ON HERBICIDES AND DEFOLIANTS
WHICH, IN ANY CASE, WERE COVERED IN LARGE MEASURE, BY ENMOD CONVEN-

TION. HOLMES SAID UK INTENTION WAS THAT DETAILED DEFINITION OF PROHIBITED AGENTS WOULD BE CONTAINED IN PROTOCOL WHICH COULD INCLUDE TOXICITY LIMIT, GENERAL FORMULAE, INTENT CLAUSE AND ILLUSTRATIVE LIST. INCLUDED IN PROHIBITION WOULD BE SUPER TOXICS, DUAL PURPOSE AGENTS USED IN WORLD WAR I, BINARY COMPONENTS, IN PARTICULAR SINGLE PURPOSE PRECURSORS, AND INCAPACITANTS. HOLMES ADDED ARTICLE 1B PARTICULARLY INTENDED TO COVER SPECIAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS REQUIRED FOR BINARIES.

3. SWEDISH EXPERT (LUNDIN) FOLLOWED WITH STATEMENT ANALYZING IK ART I AND CONCLUDING THAT, WHILE ON SURFACE COMPREHENSIVE, IT IN FACT ONLY PARTIAL BAN IN THAT DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF AGENTS AND MEANS OF DELIVERY OF SHORT-TERM TOXIC AGENTS, SUCH AS RIOT CONTROL AGENTS (RCAS), WOULD BE PERMITTED. LUNDIN EXPRESSED FEAR THAT INCENTIVE MIGHT THUS BE CREATED FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW, MORE HIGHLY TOXIC, CHEMICAL WARFARE AGENTS WITH SHORT-TERM EFFECTS. HE ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT PHRASE INTENDED "PRIMARILY" TO CAUSE LONG-TERM, PHYSIOLOGICAL HARM" IN UK DRAFT MIGHT PERMIT CONTINUED USE OF AGENTS WITH SECONDARY, LONG-TERM EFFECTS. LUNDIN SUGGESTED THAT BETTER WAY TO HANDLE RCA'S MIGHT BE TO PROVIDE FOR THEM IN A LIST OF EXEMPTED AGENTS ALONG LINES SUGGESTED BY JAPANESE.

4. YUGOSLAV EXPERT (BINENFELD) OPENED PRESENTATION WITH PLEA FOR "SCIENTIFIC TRUTH", SAYING EXPERTS SHOULD NOT DISCUSS VERIFICATION IN TERMS OF POLITICAL ACCEPTABILITY BUT RATHER IN TERMS OF TECHNICAL POSSIBILITIES SO THAT POLICY MAKERS MIGHT REACH OBJECTIVE DECISION. BINENFELD SAID "OPEN" RESEARCH, WHICH MIGHT ACCIDENTALLY PRODUCE NEW CW AGENT, SHOULD NOT BE RES-CONFIDENTIAL

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TRICTED BUT "SECRET" RESEARCH AIMED AT WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE PROHIBITED. HE EXPRESSED VIEW NON-TRANSFER CLAUSE SHOULD ALSO PROHIBIT TRANSFER OF PEOPLE HAVING KNOWLEDGE OF CW. IN DISCUSSION OF SCOPE, BINENFELD SAID FUEL-AIR EXPLOSIVES SUCH AS CBU-55 SHOULD BE BANNED SINCE THEY KILLED BY ASPHYXIATION RATHER THAN BLAST OR THERMAL EFFECT. US EXPERT (MIKULAK) FOLLOWED WITH BRIEF REVIEW OF CONTENTS OF PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED US PAPER ON INCAPACITANTS.

5. FRG EXPERT (ZEIL) DELIVERED PREPARED STATEMENT STRESSING THAT BASIC PRINCIPLE OF SCOPE SHOULD BE BANNING OF ONLY THOSE SUBSTANCES THAT LENT THEMSELVES TO MILITARY USE AND ONLY INsofar AS THEY LENT THEMSELVES TO SUCH USE. INCLUDED WOULD BE SINGLE PURPOSE AGENTS AND MILITARY USE OF DUAL PURPOSE AGENTS. PRODUCTION FOR PEACEFUL USE OF LATTER SHOULD NOT BE HINDERED. ZEIL AGREED THAT TOXICITY IMPORTANT CRITERION BUT SAID THAT IT WOULD NOT MAKE SENSE TO BAN SUBSTANCES SIMPLY BECAUSE OF HIGH TOXICITY IF OTHER CHARACTERISTICS, SUCH AS INSTABILITY, RENDERED THEM UNSUITABLE FOR MILITARY USE. HE STATED THAT LIMITING PROHIBITION TO THOSE SUBSTANCES WHICH REALLY DESERVE TO BE BANNED WOULD ENHANCE PRACTICABILITY OF VERIFI-

CATION AND CREDIBILITY OF CONVENTION. SCREENING PROCEDURE SHOULD EVALUATE TOXICITY, STABILITY, AND CAPABILITY FOR PRODUCTION ON MILITARILY IMPORTANT SCALE.

6. CZECH EXPERT (FRANEK), IN BRIEF INTERVENTION, ASKED WHAT WAS MEANT BY UK STATEMENT THAT HERBICIDES AND DEFOLIANTS "IN LARGE MEASURE" COVERED BY ENMOD CONVENTION AND SAID HE BELIEVED LIST OF BANNED SUBSTANCES AS PROPOSED BY JAPANESE INADVISABLE AS THERE COULD BE INADVERTENT OMISSIONS. HE SAID ANY LIST SHOULD BE ONLY ILLUSTRATIVE. IN UNDERSCORING NEED TO ACHIEVE CW CONVENTION CZECH EXPERT POINTED OUT THAT THE BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION HAD PLAYED AN IMPORTANT "PREVENTIVE ROLE" WITH RESPECT TO MILITARY APPLICATION OF "GENETIC ENGINEERING."

7. NETHERLANDS EXPERT (OOMS) SUPPORTED CZECH STATEMENT ON LISTS. SAYING THAT HE BELIEVED UK DRAFT CONVENTION ALREADY COVERED TOXINS, HE ASKED WHY SWEDES HAD EARLIER PROPOSED SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO CONFIDENTIAL

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TOXINS IN CONVENTION. ON THIS POINT US EXPERT SAID THAT TOXINS, AS CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES, WOULD BE COVERED BY CONVENTION BUT THAT SPECIFIC REFERENCE WOULD NOT APPEAR REQUIRED, ALTHOUGH TOXINS COULD BE INCLUDED IF ILLUSTRATIVE LIST INCLUDED. HE SAID THAT INCLUSION NEED NOT DETRACT FROM BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION AND VERIFICATION MEASURES OF CW CONVENTION WOULD PROVIDE ADDITIONAL DEGREE OF RESTRAINT AGAINST USE OF TOXINS FOR WEAPONS PURPOSES. SORENSON

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